NLWJC - Kagan DPC - Box 050 - Folder-010

Race-Race Initiative Policy: Education-Mentoring



Michael Cohen 11/26/97 03:02:08 PM

Record Type:

Record

To:

Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP

cc:

Subject: Here's a start

Below is Shireman's contribution to the leak. It looks pretty good to me, and I will work on incorporating this into my next draft in some fashion.

Robert M. Shireman 11/26/97 02:30:12 PM

Record Type:

Record

To:

Michael Cohen/OPD/EOP

cc:

Subject: Here's a start

Let me know what more you need to fit it into your design. Gene was aware of this,



Information and Early Mentoring on College Opportunity. For a number of months we have been looking at how to create, in all children, the *expectation* that they will be able to go to college. In the context of the FY 1999 Budget, we are exploring an approach that would include:

- -- A campaign to make all Americans aware of the financial aid that is available.
- --Sending a particularly strong message to children and families at high-poverty schools, for example by telling them about their financial aid eligibility as early as 6th grade (borrowing from the concept that Rep. Chaka Fattah is pursuing with his 21st Century Scholars Act).
- --Promoting strong, sustained mentoring and support programs for kids in high-poverty schools, starting in middle school or earlier (again, building on Fattah, and borrowing on the Eugene Lang "I Have a Dream" programs).
- New funding would be focused on this third element.
- A key role is envisioned for colleges to ensure a high-quality, sustained reffort; Administration officials have already discussed the idea with more than 200 college presidents and many education associations.